Accusations of Sri Lankan President against India

1279. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in 'The Hindu' of April 19, 1986 to the effect that Shri Jayawardene, the Sri Lankan President has accused India of playing double standards;

(b) whether it is a fact that India does not want to go beyond provincial Councils, as stated by Shri jayawardene;

(c) whether India has registered any protest in this regard; and

(d) whether Shri Jayawardene is also reported to have attributed to Shri Arun Nehru's statement regarding military victory in Punjab; if so, whether Government have registered any protest against these irresponsible statements of Shri Jayawardene?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Government have seen the report in "The Hindu" of April 19th about an interview given by President Jayawardene to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, in which he is reported to have accused India of practising double standards. This accusation is absolutely without any foundation. It is also not correct to say that "India does not want to go beyond Provincial Councils", it is ultimately for the Sri Lankan Government and the Sri Lankan Tamils to agree on an acceptable political solution to the ethnic crisis. India's offer of its good offices is to facilitate a dialogue. The terms of the settlement will have to be agreed directly between the two sides.

(c) No protest has been lodged with the Sri Lankan Government in connection with this interview.

(d) In the interview referred to above President Jayewardne is reported to have remarked "Mr. Arun Nehru has said they will have a military victory soon". It may be stated that the Minister of Internal Security had not made any such statement. Government have not lodged any formal protest to the Government of Sri Lanka on this point.

Foreign funds for Churches and Relief Committees

1280. SHRI DEBENDRA NATH BARMAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Baptist Church, Agartala, Tripura, Raipur Churches Development and Relief Committee, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Vikas Maitri Ranchi District, Bihar receive funds under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act;

(b) if so, the amounts received by the above institutions, year-wise from 1980 to 1984; and

(c) the countries from which the funds have originated and the names of the organisations which have contributed the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) Raipur Churches Development and Relief Committee, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Vikas Maitri, Ranchi District, Bihar have reported the receipt of funds under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act. No receipt of foreign contribution has been reported by Baptist Church, Agartala, Tripura.

(b) and (c) Information is annexed. [*See* Appendix CXXXVIII, Annexure No. 35].

Implementation of 20-Point Programme in Meghalaya

1281. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the implementation of the 20-Point Pro-